

## REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request that the above-identified application be reexamined.

Claims 1-16 are pending in this application. The Office Action mailed May 13, 2008 (hereinafter "Office Action"), rejected Claims 1-5, 8-13, and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,107,548, issued to Shafron (hereinafter "Shafron"). Claims 6, 7, 14, and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable in view of the teachings of Shafron taken in view of the teachings of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0196279, to Bloomfield et al. (hereinafter Bloomfield et al.). While applicants disagree, in order to advance the prosecution of the current application, independent Claims 1 and 9 have been amended.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 and for the reasons set forth below, applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims. Prior to discussing in detail why applicants believe that all the claims in this application are allowable, a brief description of the disclosed subject matter and brief descriptions of the teachings of the cited and applied references are provided. The following descriptions of the disclosed subject matter and the cited and applied references are not provided to define the scope or interpretation of any of the claims of this application. Instead, these descriptions are provided solely to assist the United States Patent and Trademark Office in recognizing the differences between the pending claims and the cited references, and should not be construed as limiting on the disclosed subject matter.

### Disclosed Subject Matter

A method of allowing users of a computer-implemented application program running on a data processing system to manage add-ons associated with the application program is disclosed. The method comprises generating a user interface that identifies add-ons associated with the application program in response to user input for managing the enable/disable state of the add-ons. The user interface comprises a plurality of lists of add-ons, a status of each listed

add-on, a disable add-on function, and an enable add-on function. The plurality of lists of add-ons comprises a list of add-ons that have been used by the application program, a list of add-ons that are currently used by the application program, and a list of add-ons that are currently blocked by the application program.

In response to user input, the enable/disable state of the add-ons is managed by determining if the user has selected a list of add-ons. If the user has selected a list of add-ons, the list is then displayed to a user. If it is determined that the user has selected a particular add-on from the list, it is determined if the user has chosen to disable or enable the particular add-on by using the disable/enable interface functions. If the user has chosen to disable the particular add-on, the add-on is disabled. If the user has chosen to enable the add-on, the add-on is enabled.

Also disclosed is computer-readable storage media containing computer-executable instructions that, when executed in a data processing device, allow the users of an application program to manage add-ons associated with the application program in accordance with the foregoing method.

#### Summary of Shafron (U.S. Patent No. 7,107,548)

Shafron purportedly discloses a method of dynamically controlling and displaying an Internet browser interface and a dynamically controllable Internet browser interface. Shafron's browser interface can be customized using a controlling software program that may be provided by an Internet content provider or an ISP, or that may reside on an Internet user's computer. The controlling software program enables the Internet user, the content provider, or the ISP to customize and control the information and/or functionality of a user's browser and browser interface. While describing a dynamically controllable browser interface, Shafron fails to teach, disclose, or suggest managing add-ons through a user interface generated for that purpose, wherein the user interface comprises a plurality of lists of add-ons, a status of each listed add-on,

a disable add-on function, and an enable add-on function. Shafron also fails to teach, disclose, or suggest the plurality of lists of add-ons that comprises a list of add-ons that have been used by the application program, a list of add-ons that are currently used by the application program, and a list of add-ons that are currently blocked by the application program.

Summary of Bloomfield et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0196279)

Bloomfield et al. purportedly discloses the display of application-output data within application-output windows embedded in a web browser window. The application-output windows can be dynamically moved, resized, and otherwise manipulated within the web browser window even when the application program providing the source of the application-output data is non-web enabled (e.g., legacy applications). Bloomfield et al. receives window attribute information associated with the application-output windows via a first virtual channel and displays application-output data received via a second virtual channel within the application-output windows, which are formed and/or modified using the window attribute information.

Like Shafron, Bloomfield et al. fails to teach, disclose, or suggest managing add-ons through a user interface generated for that purpose, wherein the user interface comprises a plurality of lists of add-ons, a status of each listed add-on, a disable add-on function, and an enable add-on function. Bloomfield et al. also fails to teach, disclose, or suggest the plurality of lists of add-ons that comprises a list of add-ons that have been used by the application program, a list of add-ons that are currently used by the application program, and a list of add-ons that are currently blocked by the application program.

Rejection of Claims 1-5, 8-13, and 16 Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

As indicated above, Claims 1-5, 8-13, and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Shafron. Applicants respectfully disagree for the reasons set forth below.

Claims 1-5 and 8

Initially, applicants note that Shafron, while disclosing a controlling program that creates a library file that includes an ActiveX control or Plug-in code that defines an interface object and that, when open, adds the functionality provided by ActiveX control or Plug-in code to the browser interface, fails to teach, disclose, or suggest managing add-ons through a user interface **generated specially for that purpose** as recited in Claim 1. Instead, Shafron describes alternative ways of controlling a **browser interface** through manipulating (e.g., subclassing, hiding, or disabling) the browser interface windows (*see, e.g.*, Col. 15, lines 14-55; Col. 18, lines 31-59). Thus, Shafron is not directed to the subject matter of Claim 1.

As amended, Claim 1 reads as follows:

A method of allowing users of a computer-implemented application program running on a data processing system to manage add-ons associated with the application program, comprising:

(a) generating a user interface that identifies add-ons associated with an application program and responds to user input for managing the enable/disable state of said add-ons, **the user interface comprising a plurality of lists of add-ons, a status of each listed add-on, a disable add-on function, and an enable add-on function, the plurality of lists of add-ons comprising a list of add-ons that have been used by the application program, a list of add-ons that are currently used by the application program, and a list of add-ons that are currently blocked by the application program**, the add-ons comprising small software programs pluggable into the application program for adding functionality to the application program; and

(b) in response to user input, managing the enable/disable state of said add-ons by:

(i) determining if the user has selected a list of add-ons **from the plurality of lists of add-ons**;

(ii) if the user has selected a list of add-ons, **displaying the selected list of add-ons**;

(iii) determining if the user has selected a particular add-on from the **displayed list of add-ons**;

(iv) if the user has selected a particular add-on from the **displayed list of add-ons**, determining if the user has chosen to disable or enable the particular add-on **by activating the disable add-on or enable add-on function of the user interface**;

(v) if the user has chosen to disable the particular add-on by **activating the disable add-on function of the user interface**, disabling the add-on; and

(vi) if the user has chosen to enable the add-on by **activating the enable add-on function of the user interface**, enabling the add-on.

(Emphasis added.)

Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 1, as amended, is not anticipated by Shafron. Specifically, Shafron fails to teach, disclose, or remotely suggest the user interface comprising a plurality of lists of add-ons, a status of each listed add-on, a disable add-on function, and an enable add-on function, the plurality of lists of add-ons comprising a list of add-ons that have been used by the application program, a list of add-ons that are currently used by the application program, and a list of add-ons that are currently blocked by the application program. Furthermore, Shafron fails to teach, disclose, or remotely suggest displaying the selected list of add-ons as well as disabling or enabling add-ons by activating the disable add-on or enable add-on function of the user interface. Therefore, for at least the above reasons, Claim 1, as amended, is submitted to be allowable over Shafron. Because Claims 2-5 and 8 depend directly or indirectly from Claim 1, Claims 2-5 and 8 are submitted to be allowable for at least the same reasons as Claim 1.

#### Claims 9-13 and 16

Because Claim 9 has been amended with the subject matter of, and in a manner similar to, Claim 1, Claim 9 is respectfully submitted to be allowable for at least the same reasons as Claim 1, based on the rationale provided in the above discussion of Claim 1. Claims 10-13 and 16 depend from Claim 9 and are submitted to be allowable for at least the same reasons as Claim 9 is submitted to be allowable.

Rejection of Claims 6, 7, 14, and 15 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

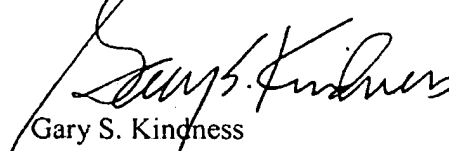
As indicated above, Claims 6, 7, 14, and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable in view of the teachings of Shafron taken in view of the teachings of Bloomfield et al. Because Bloomfield et al. does not make up for the deficiencies of Shafron as discussed above regarding Claims 1 and 9, and because Claims 6 and 7 depend from Claim 1, and Claims 14 and 15 depend from Claim 9, Claims 6, 7, 14, and 15 are submitted to be allowable for the same reasons as Claims 1 and 9.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicants respectfully submit that all of the claims in this application are allowable, and request early and favorable action passing this application to issue. If the Examiner has any remaining questions, the Examiner is encouraged to contact applicants' attorney at the number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

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